

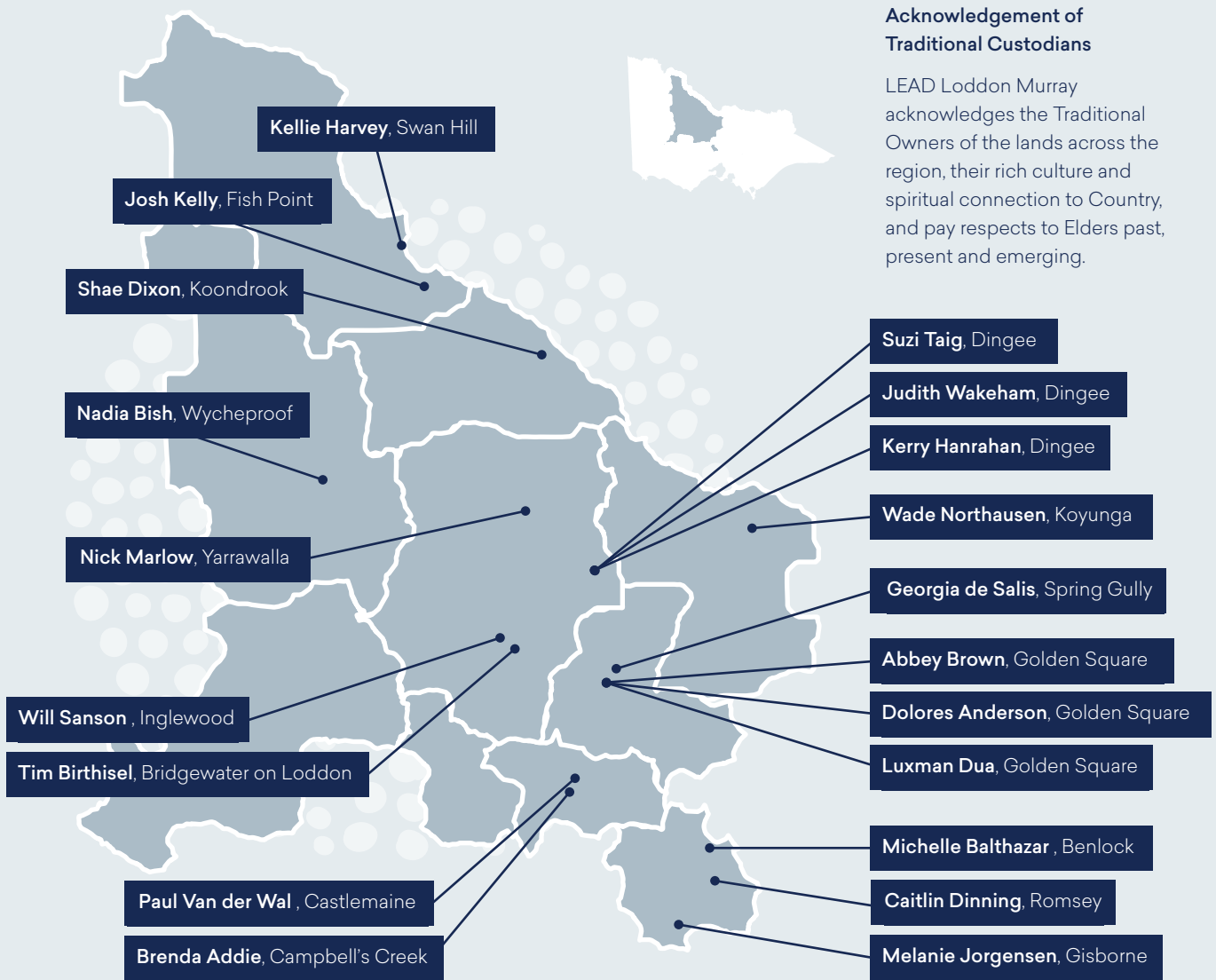


**LEAD**  
Loddon Murray  
LMCLP

2023

## Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians

LEAD Loddon Murray acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands across the region, their rich culture and spiritual connection to Country, and pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging.



“This program on multiple occasions has made me feel vulnerable and inspired. It is giving me the drive to want to actively make a positive change within my local community.”

### Our Work

- Deliver best-in-class leadership training, coaching and mentoring
- Connect passion and energy with experience and wisdom
- Provide practical, relevant and timely insights, techniques and tools
- Link future and emerging leaders with people of influence

### Our Vision

Thriving, self-determined communities

### Our Mission

To grow local, transformational servant leaders to drive positive change for communities

### Our Strategy

- Identify, nurture and develop local change makers
- Build networks of ethical, adaptive leaders
- Promote, support and influence positive, systemic change

### Our Values are;

- Authentic: we are true to our vision and purpose, genuine and realistic.
- Inclusive: embrace diversity as an ethical imperative of human rights.
- Respectful: we are thoughtful of what we say and thoughtful of what we hear.



Thank you to our Principal Partner, the Victorian State Government and all our Scholarship Partners for making our program possible. Your Support helps create the future for communities across the region.

Principal Partner



Scholarship Partners



## Jude's Message

**Dear LMCLP Graduates, Sponsors, Partners, Past Program Coordinators, Speakers, LEAD Loddon Murray Staff, Board Members, family, friends, employers and all those who have contributed to the LMCLP journey.**

As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program (LMCLP) in 2023, we find ourselves reflecting on another remarkable year, filled with growth, learning, and collaboration. This yearbook encapsulates the essence of the LMCLP 2023 experience, a testament to the transformative journey undertaken by our diverse group of leaders.

To the LMCLP Graduates of 2023, I extend my heartfelt congratulations. You have indeed embarked on an outstanding leadership journey this year, and I want to express my deepest gratitude for being the change in leadership that our communities need. Your commitment to your own personal development and your communities was evident from the moment you walked through our doors during Orientation.

Throughout the year, you demonstrated qualities of curiosity, courage, dignity, respect, and vulnerability. Each of you is uniquely individual, and, at times, these differences may have clashed, but you embraced the discomfort and emerged stronger and more resilient. I commend you for your dedication to personal growth and your willingness to step outside your comfort zones.

Abbey, Caitlin, Brenda, Josh, Paul, Dolores, Kerry, Kellie, Shae, Melanie, Georgia, Nick, Will, Joe, Michelle, Nadia, Tim, Wade, Suzi, Judith, and Lux, your leadership evolution has been humbling for both myself and the LEAD Loddon Murray team. Your journey has left an indelible mark, and I have the greatest respect for each one of you.

The LMCLP structure continued to foster your leadership development in a safe, trusted, and immersive environment. The intensity of the three-day retreats allowed you to fully bloom into your truest potential as leaders.

In 2023, diversity and inclusion were at the forefront of the program. The diverse backgrounds, professions, and communities represented by our participants were celebrated. The commitment to embracing diversity and inclusion was evident as open dialogues, cultural learning, and community engagement became integral parts of your leadership journey.

Personal growth and leadership development were the heart of LMCLP, with workshops and activities designed to help you discover your strengths, identify areas for improvement, and challenge limiting beliefs. You unearthed your values and harnessed them to serve others in your leadership capacities.

Your community impact was tangible, from community asset mapping visits to remarkable projects that addressed the unique needs of your communities. You have learned that your projects are most impactful when they directly respond

to your community's needs.

Collaboration was a core theme of LMCLP 2023, where you worked closely with peers to foster teamwork and partnerships. You witnessed firsthand how collaboration can lead to creative solutions and build stronger, more resilient communities.

The inspiring guest speakers who graced our program shared their expertise, insights, and inspirational stories, enriching your leadership journey. Many of our guest speakers are program graduates, which exemplifies the spirit of giving back.

Beyond leadership development, lifelong friendships were formed during the program. The laughter and camaraderie shared throughout the year reinforce the idea that LMCLP is not just a one-year journey but a lifelong connection.

LMCLP 2023 was marked by numerous achievements, both personal and communal. You achieved milestones you never thought possible, from spearheading impactful projects to gaining the confidence to lead your communities.

In conclusion, LMCLP 2023 was a year of growth, inspiration, and collaboration. You learned, shared, and worked together to become better leaders for your communities. This yearbook serves as a testament to your hard work, dedication, and the indomitable spirit of LMCLP 2023. As you move forward, the program's legacy of leadership and community engagement will continue to inspire future generations to make a difference in the world.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude as this program could not be possible without the generosity of our sponsors and partners, the LEAD Loddon Murray board of volunteers who steer our ship forward with care and consideration.

Guest speakers and graduate speakers who share their vast leadership knowledge, compassion and wisdom with our participants.

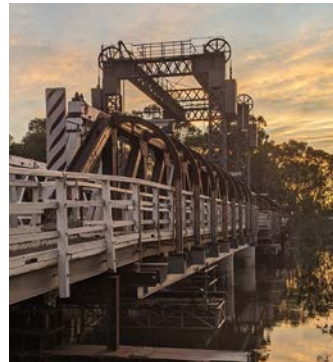
Helen O'Donoghue (LMCLP 2020) assisting me at each and every program retreat, she is the eyes, ears and heart of care of not only myself but the welfare of our participants.

To Brett Thompson, our Executive Officer, how proud I am of you stepping up to the challenge of leading LEAD Loddon Murray, you exemplify our core values and walk the talk, proud to walk beside you in developing our future leaders.

Last but not least, to the 2023 Graduates, go rock the world, our messy and unpredictable communities need you. Time to fly.

**Jude Hannah**  
PROGRAM DIRECTOR - LMCLP





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“I thought I was aware of my masks until the leadership of self and a reflective exercise called “who’s driving the bus”. It very simply explained the masks that we wear to protect ourselves and the importance of the consistent “self work” required to constantly challenge our belief systems.”



## Program calendar

Event	Date	Location
Preparations Zoom Session	15th February	Zoom
Orientation & Launch Event	24th February	Bendigo
Online Preparation Session	1st March	Zoom
<b>1) Regional Context Retreat</b>	<b>17th - 19th March</b>	<b>Bendigo</b>
Online Review Session	29th March	Zoom
Online Preparation Session	19th April	Zoom
<b>2) Leadership of Self Retreat</b>	<b>12th - 14th May</b>	<b>Echuca / Rochester</b>
Online Review Session	24th May	Zoom
Online Community Project Session	14th June	Zoom
Online Preparation Session	28th June	Zoom
<b>3) Leadership of Others Retreat</b>	<b>14th - 16th July</b>	<b>Swan Hill /Kerang</b>
Online Review Session	26th July	Zoom
Community Project Poster Pitch Planning	23rd August	Zoom
Governance Session	30th August	Zoom
Online Preparation Session	20th September	Zoom
<b>4) Leadership of Community Retreat</b>	<b>6th - 8th October</b>	<b>Mt. Macedon, Lancefield, Romsey, Kyneton &amp; Castlemaine</b>
Online Review Session	18th October	Zoom
Online Preparation Session	8th November	Zoom
<b>5) Final Retreat</b>	<b>17th – 18th November</b>	<b>Inglewood / Bridgewater on Loddon</b>
Graduation Celebration	25th November	Bendigo



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“The big picture lesson gained from this retreat was to influence and lead change, one must lead from the heart, connect and identify with a greater strategic and long-term purpose and vision. Not excluding the need to consider various perspectives and evidence-based data sources whilst managing conflict and difference of option as it arises.”

## Team Eagle

eagle

**Team Eagle, a collective of four. The team's reach spanned the Loddon Mallee region, one residing in the Macedon Ranges, two the City of Greater Bendigo and the fourth amigo, the shire of Loddon.**

The community asset mapping project provided us all a chance to get to know

each other plus us an opportunity to showcase our communities and what they offer.

Sharing the hosting role at retreats in Bendigo, Echuca and Swan Hill provided a safe space and sounding board to test our facilitation skills and consolidate leadership learnings.

As we disband and immerse ourselves back into our communities to do the work, our team's skillsets are a humble reminder of the innovation and variedness of community leadership styles to drive change for healthy and inclusive communities.



### Abbey Brown

**Town:** Golden Square

**Sponsor:** City of Greater Bendigo – Samantha Bell Scholarship

**Community Involvement:**

Innovator & initiator for the Romsey Main Street Christmas Tree Installation. MindHubHealth – supporting carers wellbeing and guided connections to bulk billing mental health professionals under the Better Access to Health initiative.

**What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

The opportunity to learn and embed my leadership skills with a collective of passionate community leaders driven lead and drive change and innovation in their communities.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?**

Continue to solidify LMCLP learnings in community through volunteering and paid work.

Motivate and share knowledge to support and encourage others to enrol in community leadership.

Collaborate and connect with others in community supporting community improvement.



### Georgia de Salis

**Town:** Spring Gully

**Sponsor:** DECCA Employee Sponsored

**Community Involvement:**

President of Hockey Central Vic.

**What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

Meeting the other participants, hearing their stories and learning on a really personal level the things that matter to communities in need.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?**

I'm keen to understand how I can better connect with my community across more causes, even if it is just for a one-off event or drive. I want to help some of the incredible work that is already happening and lead by example in the way that I suppose others to do amazing things.



### Nick Marlow

**Town:** Yarrowalla

**Sponsor:** Gardiner Dairy Foundation

**Community Involvement:**

Billboard Battalion, Mologa Landcare Group, Mitiamo Rec Reserve, Calivil tennis Club, East Loddon Community Centre, Yarrowalla CFA

**What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

Meeting so many diverse people and how we have all got so close despite such strong differences.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?**

Continuing the fight to protect farming and lives. Continue helping people and community groups wherever I can.



### Melanie Jorgensen

**Town:** Gisborne

**Sponsor:** Community Bank Gisborne & District

**Community Involvement:**

Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group (MRSPAG), Lachy's Reach.

**What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

I found myself amongst a group of unsung heroes. Its heart-warming to know that these amazing people are out there in our communities doing wonderful things. I look forward to collaborating with many of them in the future.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?**

I found myself amongst a group of unsung heroes. Its heart-warming to know that these amazing people are out there in our communities doing wonderful things. I look forward to collaborating with many of them in the future.



# LMCLP 2023 Community Projects

**Romsey Community Space**  
A Multi-Functional Community Place for Learning, Growing & Gathering

- All Access Skill Share Shed**
  - A shared training & skill share space for all abilities, genders and ages
  - Providing practical & hands-on skills training
  - E.G. welding, power tool courses, DIY workshops
- Transitional Housing**
  - Responding to the increasing demand for much needed transitional housing and support medium
- Community Garden**
  - Showcasing a range of environmental health & sustainable practices that community can adopt
  - Running a range of workshops for sustainable gardening
  - Run by community-led group with excess produce going to FoodShare
- Community FoodShare**
  - Creating an export service and per site for our high service



## Bringing Zebra Hoofbeats to Life

Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome Advocacy (Photo Supplied)  
Caitlin Dinning

## Romsey Community Space

(Photo Supplied)  
Michelle Balthazar



## Multicultural Inclusion in Hockey Central Vic

(Photo Supplied)  
Georgia de Salis

## Supporting Aboriginal Youth

Mentoring for Employment (Photo Supplied)  
Paul van der Wal

**Improve employment through mentoring**

Empower young professionals with a mentor network that guides and supports them as they look for a longer future of employment through:

- Skills training
- Career mentorship
- Networking

**How?**

**Create partnership with the Nalderun Education Aboriginal Corporat**

Collaboration with Nalderun to create synergies from existing offerings such as:

- First Nations Youth Leadership Program**  
Aims to build connections and knowledge among Aboriginal youth in Central Victoria. Led by Youth Mentors, the program focuses on strengthening cultural identity and building relationships.
- Aunty and Uncle Mentoring Program**  
Wrap-around services around tutoring, curriculum support, and assistance to schools to help students thrive in all aspects of their lives.
- SIBAT Wrap Around Service**  
Employment and training for youth after Year 12, with host employers to secure training positions.

**Next steps:**

1. Explore Collaborations
2. Identify opportunities for collaboration with Nalderun to enrich existing programs with the Mentoring concept.
3. Pilot Mentoring Program

Run a first pilot of the Mentoring concept to test and grow the idea, and gather feedback from participants.

## Future Footy Stars

(Photo Supplied)  
Tim Birthisel



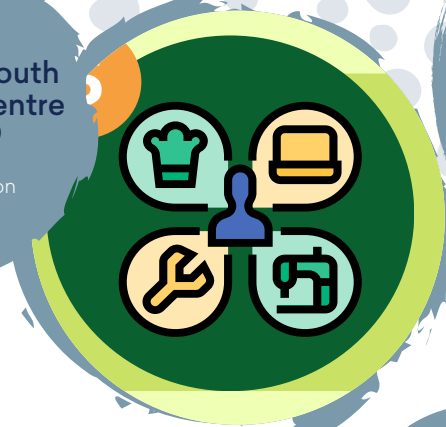
## CONNECTING NEW RESIDENTS TO VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY CONNECTORS

## Connecting New Residents to Volunteer Community Connections

(Photo Supplied)  
Shae Dixon

## Bendigo Youth Drop-In Centre

(Photo Supplied)  
Joe Deanne & Dolores Anderson



## Najalen

Food Forest (Photo Supplied)  
Nadia Bish

**NAJALEN**

There is a place halfway between Melb and Mildura on the Calder Highway that is replete with tasty treats and coffee at Bakery on Broad. It's a place where you can climb up the world's smallest registered roller coaster. It is not a place that you would make a weekend or a week.... I want to change that.

**Problem**

Wycheproof is a place where you can come to many sporting events. At Wycheproof Races, you can watch and bowls to...

**Aim**

To create a place where you can stay and...

For more details on the 2023 Community Projects, and to follow their progress, follow LEAD Loddon Murray on Facebook and Linked In.

\* Photos supplied.

# Team Hawk

**Five names randomly picked from a hat. We came from Bendigo, Castlemaine, Dingee, Koondrook and Lake Boga. Five strangers as diverse as our hometowns.**

Two with corporate backgrounds and three with community backgrounds. Who knew we would 'click' as a team so quickly and wholeheartedly. From our first retreat at Frog Ponds in Bendigo not only did we feel a connection with each other, but

we felt the connection to land. We stood barefoot on the ground and opened ourselves to emotional and spiritual growth.

At one retreat we identified our different personalities using colour. One black, a blue, two greens and a red made for an interesting dynamic! We laughed about it and worked together to utilise our strengths to tackle our team and program activities.

The highlight for us was our Community Asset Mapping. It was a beautiful thing to be welcomed to each other's community. We were able to have up close and personal discussions with locals who had a vision, then turned those visions into reality. We were able to see some local sights, and in true Team Hawk style we shared wonderful meals in each community.

They say it's not the destination but the journey that's important. This is true for



## Kerry Hanrahan

**Town:** Dingee

**Sponsor:** Loddon Shire Council

### **Community Involvement:**

Remote Area Nurse and Enhanced/Maternal child Health Nurse. Aboriginal community on Melville and Bathurst Island, (Tiwi Island). Midwife at Home births

### **What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

2023 has been an epic year for me. Being accepted and given the privilege and opportunity to participate in the Loddon Mallee Leadership Programme has been an amazing journey. Learning to understand the different character types and how they can work together in order to get things done was a big realisation for me. It has opened my eyes more to what is important to different people and why certain things are more important to them than it would be to someone else.

### **Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?**

Now that I have finished the LMCLP I am only too happy to promote what a massive difference it can make to an individual's life. I plan to take the skills I have learned with me into the future, with the plan to make the world a kinder and more compassionate place.



## Josh Kelly

**Town:** Fish Point

**Scholarship:** Country Fire Authority

**Community Involvement:** Lake Boga CFA Brigade Captain, Park Run Volunteer

### **What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

The generosity of the cohort, to allow 20 other strangers into each other's lives for the program year, warts, and all, has been nothing but inspirational. Everybody has made the space for each participant to take the time they need to work through an issue, support where it's needed, or offer a listening ear. I truly believe the friendships and connections created through this program will be lifelong.

### **Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?**

As we move forward from this program year, I feel the learning is only just beginning for me. Armed with the tools and knowledge gained through LMCLP, I look forward to seeing the skills and attributes within others in the community and guiding and encouraging them to see the potential within themselves and help them to apply these to the benefit of the entire community.



## Shae Dixon

**Town:** Koondrook

**Sponsor:** Gannawarra Shire Council

**Community Involvement:** Gannawarra Shire Council and Northern District Community Health.

### **What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

The thing that has moved me the most from completing LMCLP this year is the deep insight we get into our fellow participants' lives, struggles, careers, hopes and dreams. We have all had our own journeys evolve from the program and I believe we will all continue to inspire and motivate each other throughout the rest of our lives with some new skills in our arsenal to better our communities.

### **Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?**

I will pay it forward by encouraging others to commit the time to their personal and professional development by taking part in LMCLP in future years and volunteering to support the program when needed. I will also step up to play a more active part in my community.



## Dolores Anderson

**Town:** Golden Square

**Sponsor:** City of Greater Bendigo

### **Community Involvements:**

Phoenix Development Basketball Club

### **What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

That being vulnerable is empowering. That every one of us has a story – some incredibly tragic, that echoes out into community. The amazing friendships and connections I have made will stay with me forever. So many participants work in community, some don't, but each of them has made a positive impact to the people around them. Their courage to stand up and answer the call, to be the change that they are looking for, and their drive to lead by example is humbling and awe inspiring!

### **Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?**

I'd love to be involved with future programs as an ex-participant. I've offered my support to Lifeline Bendigo. I want to be actively involved in a Neighbourhood House and would love to support Michelle at Romsey Neighbourhood house when she needs extra hands and would love to support Joe at Foodshare Bendigo.

us as Team Hawk. We've shared car trips and hotel rooms. Been pushed out of our comfort zones. Taken the lead when we didn't want to. Given and received plenty of hugs. Made teas and coffees and shared food from each other's plates. Danced, sang, cried, and laughed. Don't know where we will end up, but being part of Team Hawk this year has been a blast!



## Paul Van der Wal

**Town:** Castlemaine

**Sponsor:** Mount Alexander Shire Council

### What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?

What moved me the most was the deep insight that we got into each-others life, hopes and dreams throughout the leadership program.

We all have such different backgrounds, values, and ideas, yet are so similar in our hopes and dreams. To see several participants already realising parts of those dreams or realising that their hopes are realistic was very profound.

### Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?

I'm planning to pay it forward in two ways. Firstly, I am going to become more active in my community. That includes delivering on my poster idea, but also putting my hand up to become more active with the Castlemaine Rail Trail, as well as looking for new ways to volunteer my time (I have yesterday enquired about a volunteer CFA role). Secondly, I'm actively promoting the LMCLP within my network, encouraging others to sign up.

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“This program allows me to learn key skills for several inspirational figures which encompasses all the guest speakers as well as my fellow cohort.”



## Team Black Swan

# Black swan

**Black Swan Events are known for being unplanned and never anticipated – a perfect analogy for our diverse team!**

Coming from different life experiences, each passionate in their conviction to make a difference, we brought our own thoughts about what we wanted from the course at the start of the year.

However, growth doesn't come from comfort, and our team was exactly what we all needed.

We showcased our communities to each other, and in doing so, shared insight into our passions and lives. We have learnt to trust, respect, and hold space for each other – not to mention have a

good laugh, and share plenty of hugs.

Team Black Swan are determined individuals who have learnt that opening up and sharing our vulnerabilities makes us stronger, more connected, community leaders.



### Michelle Balthazar

**Town:** Benlock

**Sponsor:** Macedon Ranges Shire Council

**Community Involvement:** Romsey Neighbourhood House, Lancefield Community, Benloch CFA

#### **What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

Journeying and growing alongside a cohort of such incredibly inspiring individuals who are willing to share so much of themselves, their vulnerabilities, passions, and fears, has been both confronting and challenging. They say true 'growth' happens most when you are outside your comfort zone. I feel so privileged and humbled to be part of such a supportive 'tribe' who have inspired me to challenge my fears and truly grow.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?** I feel that my 'toolbox' of resources has substantially expanded through the vast array of amazing speakers and workshops provided. This has given me such insights and have equipped me to be a better leader. I'm committed to continue to implement my learnings as well as share them with other to better support our community, and wholeheartedly encourage others to join LMCLP for a truly life-changing experience.



### Wade Northausen

**Town:** Koyunga  
**Sponsor:** Gardiner Dairy Foundation

**Community Involvement:** CFA, Billboard Battalion

#### **What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

The greatest thing that I have gotten out of the LMCLP are the many terrific people I have met and become friends with

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?** Continue to fight and educate people as to the issues crippling our country and how deadly serious this is.

I am already traveling around Australia and having enormous success in this endeavor.

Saving lives is my highest priority and I already have many projects planned to accomplish this and continue my efforts.



### Caitlin Dinning

**Town:** Romsey  
**Sponsor:** Lancefield & Romsey Community Bank

**Community Involvement:** Ehlers-Danlos Awareness, Calisthenics College, Romsey Neighbourhood House

#### **What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

It has been an amazing year of self-discovery and witnessing the change and growth throughout all participants. Community is about connecting and there is strength to doing this through sharing and having a good understanding of your vulnerabilities, and that has been evident throughout the year. I've been moved the most by the consistent support and love shown by this amazing group of humans; I've been able to be true to myself and accepted for who I am by each and every participant.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?** I've learnt that leadership is not a position you hold, it's the way you show up, whether that is to lead a community group, or simply listening to friends. I'll endeavour to always lead from within each and every day - and not be held back by an old perception that I need to be perfect to lead a community group. I'm looking forward to working with community to help improve the quality of life for those living with an invisible disability.



### Brenda Addie

**Town:** Campbells Creek  
**Sponsor:** Hugh Williamson Foundation

**Community Involvement:** Castlemaine Theatrical State Festival 2023, Commonwealth Custodians Community

#### **What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

The notion that if anyone says no you re ask them.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?** I completed my community project/conference on the 4th-5th November. A seminar for 40 people with guest speakers and a social: party event. I will continue to support my community now and into the future.

# Team Brolga



The Brolga dance illustrates the concepts of ceremony, connection, and transformation between a human spirit and the spirit of a creature. I think that is something that we embraced as a home team.

We learned so much about each other and the communities we come from. We witnessed great development and

growth from one another and supported each other throughout our time completing the leadership course. We took time to listen and understand that everyone has a different learning and leadership style.

We had times, in our own lives, when things were hard and the wonderful support our home team showed for each

other was unwavering. If we had to step up and out of our comfort zone, we did this without hesitation showing our true leadership abilities.

“The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team.” - Phil Jackson



## Suzi Taig

**Town:** Dinglee

**Sponsor:** LMCLP Graduate Sponsored

**Community Involvement:** Bridgewater on Loddon Railway Hub

**What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?** I have always been passionate about community and love the saying and philosophy of, “It takes a village to raise a child.”

Networking has been my super power, I never forget a face and often remember names!

I have been involved many non-for-profit organisations, volunteering my time within my community, and I have lived in many places! I am very fortunate to have worked alongside other amazing people who share the same passion as myself and were also leaders in the community.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you ‘pay it forward’?**

I will continue to offer my services within my community to the best of my ability.

## Tim Birthisel

**Town:** Bridgewater on Loddon

**Sponsor:** Minerals Council of Australia – Victorian Division

**Community Involvement:** Inglewood and District Community Bank Board, Inglewood Community Sports Centre

**What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

Vulnerability doesn’t come naturally to me and wasn’t encouraged when I was growing up. This was reinforced in my corporate and sporting careers and resulted in me not understanding the power of showing vulnerability. Presenting my About Me in front of 30 strangers is profound and I felt like a weight had lifted off my shoulders once completed. Bringing together a group of strangers from all different walks of life, connecting with them, and feeling everyone support each other is amazing.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you ‘pay it forward’?**

I’m putting my hand up to volunteer and give back to my community. I have just taken on coaching Cricket Blasters, which is aimed at children under 10 years of age. I’ve accepted the President role at the local Community Sports Centre, where we are about to undertake a master planning process. This will be a great opportunity to work with the community and use the skills learned from the leadership course. Managing expectations and some disappointment will be challenging, however if required I can lean on the 2023 cohort and the Lead Loddon team to assist and support me.

## Joe Deane

**Town:** Bendigo

**Sponsor:** Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

**Community Involvement:** FoodShare Bendigo

**What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

The personal connections that I have made within the cohort have not just been insightful but inspirational. Getting the opportunity to hear people’s personal journeys and what led them to join the LMCLP has shown me why these graduates will succeed in becoming community leaders. You start the year in a room full of strangers and by the end, you walk away with a new family.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you ‘pay it forward’?**

I will pay it forward by delivering on my poster idea and diving headfirst into the youth mental health space. With the tools that the program has given me, I will look to become a pillar in my local community who can make somebody’s day just a bit brighter each day. This program has given me insight into so many fantastic community groups whom I hope that I can donate some of my time to in the future.

## Kellie Harvey

**Town:** Swan Hill

**Sponsor:** Swan Hill Rural City Council

**Community Involvements:** Ultima Football Club, Scouts, Theatre Group, Mallee Cruisers Car Club, Ultima Progress Association

**What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

The wonderful Community leaders that we have spoken to throughout this journey have moved me the most.

I was really in awe of their hard work and commitment and the joy it bought to them.

Helping others in need and giving back to the community that they love was so inspiring.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you ‘pay it forward’?**

I would love to give back to my community with the skills and abilities I have learnt while attending LMCLP. I can now put into practise the learnings I have taken away from this wonderful program and my goal is to become a better Community Leader and participant. I am looking forward to leading my community project in the near future and being able to give something to our youth that I hope will benefit them going into adulthood.

I have learned so much from doing LMCLP and would like to take this opportunity thank the fabulous team Jude, Brett, and Helen and also Swan Hill Rural City Council for allowing me to be a part of such a truly inspiring program. Thank you.

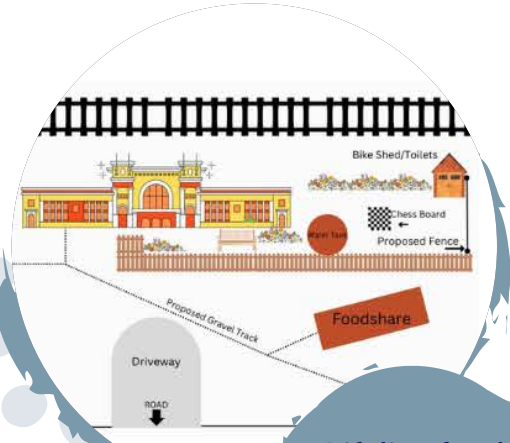
# LMCLP 2023 Community Projects



## FINANCING AERIAL FIREFIGHTING CAPACITY IN NORTH WEST VICTORIA

This initiative is aimed to protect  
and property!  
of your support

**Enhance  
Aerial  
Firefighting  
Capacity**  
(Photo Supplied)  
Josh Kelly



**Lifeline for the  
Bridgewater  
Community**  
(Photo Supplied)  
Suzi Taig &  
Will Sanson



**Commonwealth  
Custodians  
Conference**  
(Photo Supplied)  
Brenda Addie

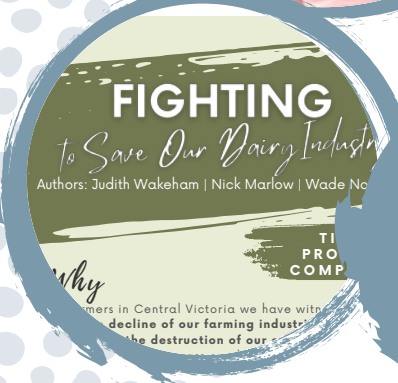


**Wellbeing  
Wednesdays**  
(Photo Supplied)  
Melanie Jorgensen



**Life Skills for  
the Future**  
(Photo Supplied)  
Kelle Harvey

## LIFE SKILLS



**Save our Dairy  
Industry**  
(Photo Supplied)  
Wade Northausen,  
Nick Marlow &  
Judith Wakeham



**Connecting  
Community**  
(Photo Supplied)  
Abbey Brown



## Connect All welcome

Create a comp  
to Community'  
existing service  
and surrounds.  
Increase the  
Centre (LC  
essenti

For more details on the 2023  
Community Projects, and to follow  
their progress, follow LEAD Loddon  
Murray on Facebook and Linked In.

\* Photos supplied.



”

“LMCLP (program) had been on my radar for some time, reinforced by my observation of peers in my community who have flourished having participated in the program. The program offered a learning style I resonated and connected with and my participation the program to strengthen my personal and professional community developments skills with other aspiring leaders in Loddon Mallee catchment.”



”

“I have been challenged to step out of my comfort zone, and to really dig deep and look at my whys and hows”

# Team Magpie

**With excitement and trepidation, we combined to become Team Magpie all those months ago in Bendigo**

By creating a space for everyone to contribute by 'sharing the airtime' to ensure all our voices were heard and inviting and encouraging vulnerability. We created a supportive environment to encourage learning, with respect to know that we are not better than anyone

else but wise enough to know that we are different.

Our Magpie Team came from all over the Loddon Murray area – we came as individuals and have ended the year as a team. Being able to visit our different shires, we have been able to get inspiration for our projects.

Throughout our journey we discovered that different colours lead to different leadership styles. Being able to have each of the colours in our team enabled

us to work well together, enabling each of us to have the opportunity to further develop our leadership styles.

Growth was encouraged as we endeavored to pause and think in situations where we were challenged or triggered. Taking the time to ask clarifying questions while embracing our teams' diverse talents and ways of learning. Such connections have allowed us to realise that our past helps us to create our future.



## Nadia Bish

**Town:** Wycheproof

**Sponsor:** Buloke Shire Council

**Community Involvement:** Wycheproof Football, Netball & Hockey Clubs, Landcare Group

**What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

Allowing others into our lives, learning about individuals hopes and dreams and the courage they have had to make that happen has been an inspiration to make my passions a reality. Having leaders show us that our vulnerability is ok and that working through 'our' issues makes us a stronger individual having the ability to go forward and be an inspiring community leader.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?**

Being able to put into practice the many and varied learnings of LMCLP I hope will enable me to show others that LMCLP is a wonderful program that gives individuals the skills required to make their passions a reality. I intend to create a Food Based Farm Stay to lead the way in bringing men/women back to their roots, relearning that they have the ability to become less reliant on big chain corporations.



## Will Sanson

**Town:** Inglewood

**Sponsor:** North Central CMA

**Community Involvement:** Landcare Network

**What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?**

Our Group and the diversity of our Cohort.

The raw, open, honest conversations that our group has been able to share through everyone's life story has been amazing, confronting, and inspiring. LMCLP has provided such a safe and inclusive environment where everyone feels comfortable openly sharing their challenges, pain, and joy. The growth of individuals throughout the program has been a joy to witness.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?**

I will use my skills that the program has given me to help my community. I would like to be able to show others that Leadership isn't always about the job or the title but the way you lead and bring others forward. I want to be able to help communities in our region grow and prosper and help the quiet people shine.



## Luxman Dua

**Town:** Golden Square

**Sponsor:** Coliban Water

**Community Involvement:** Board member at Girton Grammar School, Founder & Inaugural Secretary at Indian Association and Bendigo, Member of community panel that established Vision, Values, and long-term Strategy for City of Greater Bendigo

**What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?** LMCLP enlightened me to the humane side of leadership. I learned that empathy and compassion are part of a leader's inherent value system. LMCLP has been a wonderful program that allows people to build upon each other's strengths. 2023 group is full of talent and diversity that provided a safe environment for sharing raw, open, honest conversations.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?** I am passionate about and last three and would like to create and implement a program that addresses loneliness of seniors, provides financial literacy to middle-aged people, and motivates kids towards achieving academic excellence. Senior's loneliness, broken families, school drop-out kids, and people's dependence on Centrelink also hurt me a lot and I hope I am able to use LMCLP skills to spread awareness against these malaises in our society.



## Judith Wakeham

**Town:** Dingee

**Sponsor:** LMCLP Graduate Sponsored

**Community Involvement:** Farming Communities

**What aspect of LMCLP 2023 has moved you the most?** Coming together with 20 unknown participants and sharing our personal stories with each other. Having speakers give up their time to come in and give us techniques to go out into the world with more confidence and skills.

**Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?** I can pay it forward by using the skills that have been shared to me. By being able to speak openly in front of a group of people about what is happening to our farmers, their livelihoods, and their families. Acknowledging the hardships they face, including their families and their communities. Ability to be able to share answers and suggestions for recovery.

Being there to support or of knowing the places for support when our farming community needs it.



# Loddon Murray

## Community Leadership Program

### Graduates 1998-2023

<b>1998</b>	<b>2000</b>			
Steve Baker	Judy Blackburn	Kurt Major	Oscar Aertssen	Lucy Mayes
Susan Bennett	Greg Boyd	Scott Matthews	Iain Aitken	Hilary McIntosh
Pennie Blum Gill	Peter Byrne-Vereker	Kerrie McDonald	Judy Blundell	Brad McQueen
Colleen Condliffe	Doug Fehring	Kirsty Morieson	Heather Cohalan	Donna Petrusma
John Daniel	Kerry Gammon	Kelly Mulligan	Joanne Duffy	Kirsty Quick
Andrea Davies	Wendy Hersey	Belinda Pritchard	Mary-Anne Duke	Gillian Ryan
Brendon Goddard	Gaby Hogg	Sandra Steward	Kellie Grattidge	Mary-Ann Scull
Jamie Hall	Brian Kelly	Owen Wilson	Ruth Green	Anthony Sheean
Jo Haw	Judy McQueen	<b>2003</b>	Peter Kennedy	<b>2008</b>
Bill Heslop	Peter Mitchell	Pamela Barber	Anne Morgan	Dominic Baxter
Yvonne Jennings	Andrew Pearson	Deirdre Broad	John Nightingale	Ruth Bumpstead
Jenny Kelly	Toni Parsons	Donna Campbell	Marie Pirkebner	Christopher Cahill
Lorri Lambert	Sally Rice	Paige Campbell	Jacqui Randazzo	Ron Cawthan
Kate Lottkowitz	Glenn Stanmore	Heather Chamberlain	Melanie Roberts	Alan Chamings
Paul Madden	Wayne Stephen	David Connor	Tara Smith	Kellie Doering
Reid Mather	Cecily Thomas	Gary Curtis	Jeremy Swift	Maree Farley
Wendy McAllister	Suellen Tomamichel	Tanya Daley	Kate Toll	Isabelle Gay
Kerryn McClelland	Andrew Ward	Lisa Gervasoni	Sandra Tomamichel	Kerri Hamilton
Margaret Nelson	Shayne Ward	Russell Gillingham	John White	Matthew Hawken
Joanne Postlethwaite	Peter Watson	Cathie Hooke	Lynne Williamson	Nicole Hayes
Ian Potter	<b>2001</b>	Sue Lea	<b>2006</b>	Sarah Mayne
Deidre Schlitz	Hodi Beauliv	Stephen Mahon	Peter Bassett	Michelle McLachlan
Thelma Shearer	Richard Chirnside	Elaine Medlin	Susi Baumgartner	Simone Murdoch
<b>1999</b>	Kelly Dal Broi	Glenn Pomeroy	Marigold Blackwood	Kevin Orr
Hank Brugar	Michael Davidson	Jackie Ritchie	Steve Curry	Vanessa Pett
Di Bunnett	John Fickenlan	Julie Slater	Kristen Dennis	Brendan Pickles
Anne Canfield	Gillingham	Neville Stewart	Tracey Farrell	Linda Quinton
Helen Chambers	Roger Griffiths	Martin Szakal	Tyson Fehring	James Reade
Jan Consedine	Mark Gronow	<b>2004</b>	James Goldsmith	Melisa Sincock
Mark Dawson	Cathie Haw	Laura Chant	Garry Holmes	Sheri Streilein
Karen Douglas	Richard Hicks	Barbara Crljen	Marlene Jeffrey	Mark Synot
Kym Dunbar	Andrea Hollier	Andrea Delaney	Anthony Judd	Michael Toman
Deanne Free	Brett Lynn	Amy Derksen	Doug Lobley	Briana Trimble
Paul Gill	Katherine MacDonald	Gayleen Dunstan	Bronwen Machin	Anne Wiseman
Margot Henty	Phillip Maher	Steve Ford	Sue Mahon	<b>2009</b>
Shirley Hope	Kim Natale	Rohan Gale	Pam McCavour	Rod Allen
Steve Hounsell	Bev Nethercote	Catherine Goldwater	Rita Revell	Kerry Anderson
Barry Jennings	Marjory Nicholls	Jan Graham	Annmarie Rosengren	Leeza Axton
Anne Kelly	Margaret Piccoli	Ian Gumley	Sarah Sammon	Stephanie Borden
Peter Kulich	Chrissy Reeves	Meggs Hannes-Paterson	Mary Sdraulig	Brent Bruns
Judi Miles	Alistair Ward	Rachel Hardinge	Robyn Vanrenen	Warrick Clarke
Marilyne Nicholls	Ellen White	Selvi Kannan	<b>2007</b>	Renee Davison
Sue Pretty	<b>2002</b>	Paul Kendall	Jock Allan	Lee Duffin
Lyn Seton-Stewart	John Barber	Michael Lamprell	Rhiannon Anderson	Anthony Dunster-Jones
Kevin Sinclair	Paul Cale	Sandii Lewis	Anna Arkoudis	Sharlene Gerke
Tom Smith	Ted Carmody	Heather McNaught	Duane Attree	Paul Henderson
Jean Sutherland	Karinda Cattlin	Rhonda McNeil	Bernadette Campbell	Jadyn Hoskin
Beth Taylor	Donna Collier	Andrea Milikins	Chris Carey	Glynn Jarrett
Bing Thomas	Peter Daley	Malcolm Perris	Trevor Collins	Aleta Kilner
Louise Thomas	Zoe Davies	Chris Pollock	Linda Dillon	Karl Meulendijks
Rohan Ward	Mary Evans	Lindsay Rogers	Jillian Gibson	Suzanne Osman
Claire Waters	Alison Farrar	Cherie Stacey	Leanne Grogan	Jillian Pink
	Jamie Kendrick	Kelly Stringer	Jane Gustus-Callanan	Kurt Poltrock
	Roger Laubsch	Jeannie Wagner	Maurice Hawkins	Julie Ruddle
		<b>2005</b>	James Maxwell	Trudi Selleck

Kristin Steers  
Susan Stewart  
Michele Totterdell  
Kate Whitecross

#### 2010

David Barker  
Louise Bewley  
Suzanne Blume  
Tricia Brennan  
Jacqueline Brodie-Hans  
Kristen Dyer  
Michael Fitzgibbon  
Sharon Fullex  
Suzanne Grimes  
Kim Hanlon  
Brent Heitbaum  
Jacinta Hicks  
Sam Luxemburg  
Melinda Mann  
Scott McLarty  
Sue McLean  
Rachel Paterson  
Lacey Quinn  
Alice Saville  
David Vivian

#### 2011

Abhishek Awasthi  
Helen Bramley-Jackson  
Alison Couston  
Randal Dell -Spector  
Rose Harris  
Anthea Jones  
Wendy McCormick  
Alan McFarlane  
Cheryl McKinnon  
Murray McLean  
Vanessa McLeod  
Deborah Micallef  
Megan Purcell  
Christine Rourke  
Marita Saville  
Tania Sherwood  
David Silvagni  
Katrina Thorne  
Daan Van Dorenmalen  
Tracey Wolsley

#### 2012

Roslyn Affleck  
Steph Ash  
Max Bickford  
Marg Boers  
Kate Booth  
Di Bowles  
Tracey Clifford  
Cecilia Connellan  
Noemi Cummings  
Pearl Fernandes  
Sue Gerdson  
Lisa Gormley  
Ash Harris

Sam Hawkins  
Judith Henschke-Reid  
Megan Kreutzer  
Leonie Lomax  
Jill Loorham  
Tracy McLoughlan  
Elaine Murphy  
Peter Noble  
Donna Salathiel  
Paulette Vargas  
Jan Webster

#### 2013

Ardavan Abedian  
Sue Allengame  
Kyra Bethell  
John Boyd  
Peter Church  
Anna de Vrieze  
Karin Flynn  
Desiree Gardiner  
Jan Harper  
Bernadette Holland-Cozens  
June Hopley  
Maree Hughes  
Kerry Meiers  
Melanie Newell  
Janet Pearce  
David Pollard  
Sharon Scott  
Craig Segat  
Jay Smith  
Wendy Turley  
Andrew Whatley  
Douglas Wood  
Yvonne Wrigglesworth

#### 2014

Chloe Armstrong  
Emma Bridger  
Glenys Broad  
Kristi Coller  
Boston Curry  
Trina Dalton-Oogjes  
Anita Dickons  
Shane Grenfell  
Amanda Gretgrix  
Kanishka Guluwita  
Elaine Hamilton  
Angela Hird  
Mary Hogarth  
Travis Inmon  
Brenton Johnson  
Shandel Keele  
Caitlin Matthews  
Stuart McGibbon  
Julie McLaren  
Paolo Righetti  
Kim Skyring  
Prue Southey  
Merrilyn Thompson  
Leanne Willis

#### 2015

Danielle Couch  
Shelley Cowen  
Stephen Dickons  
Kerri Douglas  
Mick Dunne  
Luke Edgerton  
David Heath  
Anette Kortenhuis  
Daniel Kreutzer  
Melissa Neal  
Mandy Olszewski  
Tim Robinson  
Jill Scanlon  
Colleen Scriven  
Jason Smith  
Tanya Smith  
Luke Spielvogel  
Andrew Telfer  
Leonie Wright

#### 2016

Tracey Bowen  
Tamara Boyd  
Fiona Bradshaw  
Steve Carroll  
Karen Carpenter  
Lisa Cox  
Sharlene Crage  
Meg Doller  
Tessa Harris  
Jason Hensley  
Timothy Hoogwerf  
Chris Jeffery  
Cheryl Kemp  
Paul Kooperman  
Peter Lilly  
Jenny Lonergan  
Stewart Luckman  
Kate McInnes  
Alana Newbold  
James O'Bryen  
Katherine Petrusma  
Kristy Pilgrim  
Ric Raftis  
Rebecca Sexton  
Emma Shannon  
Cathy Spencer  
Baydon Widdicombe

#### 2017

Moustafa Al-Rawi  
Charlotte Aves  
Dawn Bamforth  
Wayne Bell  
Matthew Bennett  
Brendan Cossens  
Jan Farrell  
Donna Fearn  
Joshua Greene  
Djallarna Hamilton  
Tayla Hansen  
Jennifer Hurrell

Lynette Kelson  
Tessa Laing  
Marilyn Lozada-Fernandez  
Narelle Lyle  
Adam Mckie  
Natasha Miles  
Wendy Murphy  
Sarah O'Brien  
Aileen O'Sullivan  
Rajiv Patney  
Travis Price  
Lauren Randle  
Nicki Renfrey  
Angela Roney  
Louise Scott  
Jac Torres-Gomez

#### 2018

Claire Billing  
Phillip Brien  
Nathalie Brown  
Veronica Budnikas  
Paula Collard  
Shanelle Crole  
Charmaine Delaney  
Indivar Dhakal  
Justin Di Caprio  
Emma Dotollo  
Lara English  
Justine Farley  
Samantha Ferrier  
Barry Floyd  
Kathryn Hall  
Jude Hannah  
Bronwen Haywood  
Samantha Hilliard  
Linda Lynch  
Fiona Machin  
Sarah Matthee  
Rebecca McHutchison  
Jackie Nieuwenhuizen  
Genevive Policarpio  
Natasha Romas  
Carli Springate  
Tracey Strachan  
Amy Treacy

#### 2019

Christine Barker  
Sarah Broad  
Patrick Fagan  
Simon Furness  
Jordi Gradon  
Kyle Hayes  
Suzanne Hughes  
Eddie Lob  
Jess Kelly  
Jodie Lyons  
Rebecca Maskell  
Caleb Maxwell  
Shonelle McEvoy  
Adrian McMahon  
Andrea Otto

Jan Pagliaro  
Robyn Parker  
Daniel Rees  
Leon Stackpole  
Meghan Stewart  
Jenny Stillman  
Lauren Swann  
Sei Sei Mu Thein  
Brett Thompson

#### 2020

Sonya Browne  
Pam Dawkins  
Chris Dent  
Harrison Godfrey  
Sarah Haney  
Nicky Haslinghouse  
Joseph Holloway  
Suzie Jacobs  
Alison Jones  
Hayden McKinnon  
Jesse Munzel  
Carly Noble  
Helen O'Donoghue  
Vanessa Parke  
rNathan Rogers  
Annie Tu  
Helen Watkins  
Rory White  
Kerryn Wildenburg  
Wade Williams  
Jane Worthington

#### 2021

Alice Rowbottom  
Alison Stewart  
Andrew Smyth  
Annette Constable  
Brittany Bickford  
Callum Wright  
Cassandra Lewis  
Libby Semmens  
Felicity Grosse  
George Filev  
Hannah Cook  
Jess Liston  
Jon Haw  
Krista Patterson - Majoor  
Madelaine Scott  
Matt Gromadzki  
Mihaela Kovacic  
Natalie Eckert  
Nicole Conway  
Paul Harrison  
Rebecca Postlethwaite  
Suzi Birthisel  
Tahli Corin  
Tarryn Smith  
Windsor Main

#### 2022

Andrea Boudville  
Austin Smith

Cassy Borthwick  
 Chris Epworth  
 Cindy Gould  
 Ellyse Roper  
 Isaac Newstead  
 Isis Jordan  
 Kim Cornford  
 Liesbeth Long  
 Nicholas Mudge  
 Samara Hodson  
 Scott Bourne  
 Vin Jarrod  
 Monica Brereton  
 Kate Tripodi  
 Tom Whiteman  
 Rebecca Wyper  
 Tiffany Inglis



**2023**

Abbey Brown  
 Caitlin Dinning  
 Brenda Addie  
 Melanie Jorgensen  
 Josh Kelly  
 Joe Deane  
 Tim Birthisel  
 Kerry Hanrahan  
 Dolores Anderson  
 Luxman Dua  
 Georgia de Salis  
 Paul van der Wal  
 Will Sanson  
 Judith Wakeham  
 Wade Northausen  
 Nadia Bish  
 Suzi Taig  
 Michelle Balthazar  
 Nick Marlow  
 Shae Dixon  
 Kellie Harvey

”  
 “This session was very insightful and gave me a deeper understanding of myself as well as others. Their lessons served as a fantastic tool to expand my emotional intelligence. I have continued to use their teachings in both my professional and personal life.”





“Without doubt the diversity of the group has been a feature of the journey so far. The variety of ages and skills; the communities represented and the individual community involvement is extraordinary.”

Lead Loddon Murray Inc.

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[info@leadlm.org.au](mailto:info@leadlm.org.au)



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